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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Information from Bernau

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 23 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 3 October 1953, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne in Bernau quartered not less than 1,500 troops. An alert practice was held in the installation on 1 October which involved 600 to 800 troops. At about 11 p.m., all quarters were lighted almost at once and 7 T-34 tanks, 6 trucks towing 57-mm AT guns and 2 trucks towing 122-mm field howitzers subsequently drove out of the garages. Several trucks were loaded at the same time. A whistle signal terminated the alert practice. Tanks and vehicles were brought back to the garages. Between 22 September and 4 October, troops engaged in practice with 4 x 57-mm AT guns were several times seen in the barracks yard. On 2 October, 5 trucks [] towing a 50X1-HUM 57-mm AT gun and a 122-mm field howitzers left the barracks installation toward Schoenow training grounds. Four T-34-85 tanks were repeatedly 50X1-HUM seen engaged in driving practice in the training area. Trucks [] were identified in traffic to and from the installation.
2. On 3 October, the SS Brieftautenstation was occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. One officer observed wore artillery insignia. No heavy weapons were noticed during the time of observation. There was much activity in the billeting area. Truck [] was identified. 50X1-HUM
3. On 2 October, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne was occupied by 2,000 to 2,400 troops. Gun and motor vehicle sheds were erected in the billeting area. Observed were 57-mm AT guns, 82-mm mortars and several T-34 tanks. At about 6 p.m. on 1 October, 1 T-34 tank and 2 T-34/85 tanks entered the barracks installation, coming from the garrison training grounds at Schoenow. From 9 a.m. to noon on 2 October, mortar firing was heard from the garrison 50X1-HUM training grounds. Vehicles observed at the training grounds during the period of observation included trucks [] each occupied by 20 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and several officers, truck [] towing a field 50X1-HUM kitchen, truck [] with a van-like superstructure and two other trucks. Motor vehicles seen in traffic to and from the installation [] 50X1-HUM

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4. On 2 October, the SS Briefftaubenstation was occupied to capacity by 300 to 400 troops. No vehicular traffic was noticed. On 1 October, about 5 soldiers cleaned 2 x 37-mm AA guns in the northern section of the barracks yard.

Comment. The occupation of the Luftnachrichten Kaserne has apparently not changed during the period of observation. As units of the 25th Tank Div and, probably of the 6th Gds Mecz Div conducted exercises north of Berlin from 2 to 5 October, it could be that the alert practice mentioned in the present report was connected with these exercises. Available information so far indicated, however, that only units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div from the Eberswalde post participated in the exercises.

the SS Briefftaubenstation was assumed occupied only 30 percent by units of the 120th (?) AAA Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div. There is the possibility that the other elements of the regiment returned prior to 2 October.

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